


JANUARY 13, 1809.

Read the first and second time, and committed to a committee of the whole House, on Monday next.

A Bill,

To incorporate the trustees of the Presbyterian Church in the town of Alexandria.



1 *Sec. 1. BE it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives*
2 *of the United States of America, in Congress assembled, That*
3 the reverend doctor James Muir, James Irvine, Thomas Vowel,
4 Andrew Jamieson, Joseph Reddle, Richard Veitch, Alexander
5 Mackenzie, Joseph Harper, Joseph Dean, and James Douglass,
6 and their successors duly elected, or appointed, in manner herein
7 after directed, be, and they are hereby made, declared and con-
8 stituted a corporation and body politic in law, and in fact, to have
9 continuance forever, by the name, style and title of "the trustees
10 of the Presbyterian Congregation in the town of Alexandria."

1 *Sec. 2. And be it further enacted, That all and singular the lands,*

2 tenements, rents, annuities, rights, privileges, goods and chattels,
3 heretofore given, granted, devised or bequeathed, to the said con-
4 gregation, or to any person or persons, for the use thereof, or
5 that have been purchased for, or on account of the same, be, and
6 are hereby vested in and confirmed to the said corporation; and
7 further, that the said corporation may purchase, take, receive, and
8 enjoy, any lands, tenements, rents, annuities, rights or privileges,
9 or any goods, chattels, or other effects, of what kind or nature
10 soever, which shall or may hereafter be given, granted, sold, be-
11 queathed, or devised unto them, by any person or persons, bo-
12 dies politic or corporate, capable of making such gift, grant, sale
13 or bequest, and the said property, real and personal, to rent, sell,
14 convey and confirm, or otherwise dispose of, as fully and effectu-
15 ally as any person or persons, bodies politic or corporate, may or
16 can do; *Provided*, that the clear annual income of all such pro-
17 perty may not exceed the sum of three thousand dollars; that no
18 part of the ground now appropriated and inclosed for a grave-
19 yard, be disposed of for any other purpose, and that the afore-
20 said property, real and personal, be considered as held in the
21 trust, under the management, and at the disposal of said corpo-
22 ration, for the purpose of defraying the expenses incident to their
23 mode of religious worship, of enclosing and keeping in decent re-
24 pair their grave-yard and other lots with the buildings thereon,
25 or which may hereafter be erected thereon, and of affording such
26 relief to the poor as their funds may from time to time allow, and
27 for no other purpose.

1 *Sec. 3. And be it further enacted,* That the said corporation, by
 2 the name, style, and title aforesaid, be, and shall hereafter forever
 3 be able and capable in law to sue, and to be sued, plead, and be
 4 impleaded, answer, and be answered unto, defend, and be defend-
 5 ed, in any court or courts, or other places, and before any judge
 6 or judges, justice or justices, or other person whatsoever, within
 7 the district of Columbia or elsewhere, in all and all manner of
 8 suits, actions, complaints, pleas, causes, matters and demands, of
 9 whatsoever kind or nature they may be, in as full and effectual a
 10 manner as any other person or persons, bodies politic or corpo-
 11 rate, may or can do.

1 *Sec. 4. And be it further enacted,* That the said corporation
 2 shall have full power and authority to make, have and use a com-
 3 mon seal, with such device and inscription as they shall think
 4 proper, and the same to break, alter or renew at their pleasure ;
 5 to appoint a treasurer, secretary and such other officers, as they
 6 may deem necessary and proper ; to assign them their duties and
 7 fix their compensation, and to remove any or all of them from of-
 8 fice, appoint another or others in their places, as often as they
 9 shall think fit ; to make, ordain, establish and execute, such bye
 10 laws and ordinances of a secular nature, as may be deemed useful
 11 for their own government ; and the same to alter, amend, or abro-
 12 gate at pleasure ; to fill up vacancies that may happen in their
 13 number, between two annual elections ; and to determine upon, do
 14 and transact all business and matters appertaining to said corpo-
 15 ration, and to the secular affairs of said congregation, agreeably to

16 the rules, ordinances and bye laws thereof; during their continu-
 17 ance in office : *Provided*, That not less than five trustees be a quo-
 18 rum to do business ; and that no bye law, rule or ordinance shall
 19 be made repugnant to the laws of this district.

1 *Sec. 5. And be it further enacted*, That there shall be an annual
 2 meeting of the pew holders, in the church of the said congregation,
 3 held on the second Monday in December, in every year hereaf-
 4 ter, at the church or usual place of public worship, at which time
 5 and place, the said pew holders, or such of them as may be present,
 6 shall elect and choose by ballot, from the pew holders of the said
 7 congregation, nine trustees to serve for the year ensuing their
 8 election, and until others shall be elected or appointed to serve in
 9 their place.

1 *Sec. 6. And be it further enacted*, That the trustees shall keep,
 2 or cause to be kept, in suitable books for the purpose, just and pro-
 3 per entries of all the proceedings and accounts of the said congre-
 4 gation and corporation, and have them laid before the members at
 5 every annual meeting, previous to taking the votes, and shall al-
 6 ways deliver the said books, together with all the property of said
 7 congregation and corporation, in good order to their successors in
 8 office, whenever required.